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## **UCT statement on World University Rankings 2012**

**Please cite Ms Gerda Kruger, Executive Director:  
Communications & Marketing Department at UCT**

Results from Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings for 2012/13, released on 11 September 2012, place the University of Cape Town at 154. The university has climbed two places, up from 156 in 2011 and 161<sup>st</sup> in 2010. The QS system ranks UCT as the only university in Africa in the top 200 and 7<sup>th</sup> in the Top ten BRICS universities. The rankings also place five South African universities in the top 700.

UCT also performed well in the Shanghai Jiao Tong Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU), released in August 2012. The ARWU ranking for UCT remains unchanged in the 200-300 range, ranking the university once again, as the top university in Africa. Wits (Top 400) and UKZN (Top 500) are the other South African universities that made the list.

A critical factor in achieving success as a higher education institution is found in the quality of the staff. UCT is blessed to have staffs of world class quality that are able to compete and participate at the highest level in the global knowledge economy.

Although UCT is mindful of the criticisms and debate surrounding ranking methods, we are happy with UCT's consistency and continue to strive for excellence in our academic endeavors as well as our contribution to society as a whole.

A good performance in the rankings sends the message that South Africans can get a world-class education at home. Furthermore, prospective students and staff the world over also use the rankings to decide where to study and work. Our reputation also facilitates our many research partnerships with other universities in the country, in other parts of Africa and the rest of the world. These partnerships undoubtedly further contribute to our research effort and reputation.

The Times Higher Education (THE) World Rankings are expected in October. Last year, UCT ranked in the top 200 on the THE rankings.

***ENDS***

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